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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application Of: Stefan Thiem

Filed: July 1, 2003

For: Drive System For An Apparatus For Staining Specimens
the specification of which is being transmitted herewith.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56

Applicant wishes to make of record the following references under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (legible copies are provided).

References cited

- 1) U.S. Patent No. 3,691,988
- 2) U.S. Patent No. 4,911,098
- 3) German Patent No. De 41 17 832 C2
- 4) German Patent No. De 41 17 833 C2

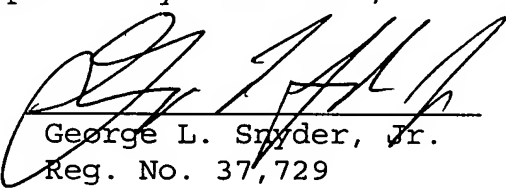
IDS For: Drive System For An Apparatus For
Staining Specimens
Inventor: Stefan Thiem

Please see attached Form 1449 for list of publications.
Legible copies of all publications listed are enclosed.

The person making this statement is the patent attorney who
signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the
inventors, and as the attorney associated with the filing and
prosecution of this application (37 CFR 1.56(a)).

Respectfully Submitted,

By:


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July 1, 2003

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number		
				Filing Date		07/01/03
				First Named Inventor		Stefan Thiem
				Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number		37105.0051

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US-3,691,988	09-16-1972	Clarke	
	2	US-4,911,098	03-27-1990	Tabata	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	3	DE 41 17 831 C2	12-03-1992	Medite Ges Fuer Medizintechnik (DE)		
	4	DE 41 17 833 C2	02-11-1992	Medite Ges Fur Medizintechnik (DE)		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.